HONOLULU, HAWAHAN ISLANDS, OCTOBER 8, 1863

IMPORTANT FROM JAPAN. Hostilities Commenced.

The French. Netherlands and American Men of War at Work-The "Wyonifag" has an Engagement, etc.

By the arrival at San Francisco, Sept. 5. of the barque Wilhelmina Elize, from Kanagawa, Japan, we have dates to July 24th; giving full particulars of the Naval engagements with the Japanese. Besides the American and French vessels noted below, a British or Netherlands war vessel, the Medusa, was also engaged in the fight. The Japanese paper calls the Medusa a Netherland ship, but it is believed to be British :

Full Particulars.

[From the Extra to the Japan Commercial News of July 24.] We have been furnished the following account of the trip of the U. S. steamer Wyoming, by E. S. Benson, Esq , who was passenger on board :

Information having reached Yokohoma, on the 11th inst., that the American steamer Pembroke had been fired into by two Japanese armed vessels, Captain McDougal immediately issued the necessary orders to prepare for sea. Coal and stores having been taken on board, we got under way at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 13th inst; entered the Bungo Channel on the 15th, and anchored at the Island of Hime Sima. The next morning (16th instant.) we proceeded towards the Straits of Shimonoseki, the western entrance of the inland sea. On the northern shore of the narrow passage is the province of Nagoto, governed by the Prince of Tchu-shu.

Within the past year he purchased the steamer Lancefield and brig Lanriese, the former for \$125. 000, and the latter for about \$25,000. On nearing the Straits a signal un was fired from

a masked battery on the northern shore, which was repeated by two others to the westward towards

Rounding the point on the southern side of the entrance, a burque, brig and steamer were discovered lying at anchor close to the north shore; the steamer and the brig were made out to be the Lancefield and Laurick; the barque's name we did not know. All the vessels were flying the Japanese flog at the peak, and the private colors of the Prince of Nagoto at the main. We now steered directly for the vessels, when a battery of three guns on the northern shore, about fitty feet above the level of the sen, opened fire on us, cutting up the rigging between the main and mizzen must. We then ran up the American flag, and, still steaming on, were fired on by a battery of four guns; to this we replied with a browleide.

We were now rapidly approaching the vessels; the barque was close in shore; about fifty Jards outside of her, and one length ahead, lay the brig another length ahead; and fitty yards outside the steamer.

The main channel was outside of all these vessels. Captain McDougal gave orders to run the Wyoming between the steamer and the brig. As we got abreast of the barque she opened a broadside fire from three guns; in less than two ministes we were abreast of the brig and received her firs from four 32 pounders. We now had the steamer on fur port side; her guns, like the others, being trained on the channel, she fired a few swivels and small arms only. In passing we gave them all our guns on both sides, hulling both the brig and steamer. Keeping close round the bows of the steamer we stood over toward the southern shore, receiving a constant fire from six batteries, the steamer, brigfand barque. We here got aground, but backed off without much difficulty. The steamer Lancefield had ng steam up, slipped her cable, keeping close a yag the northern shore, either with the intention of a caping, or of running on shore, to examine the do age caused by our first shots. The Wyoming we- now manceuvred into position, and an eleven inch shell was planted in the steamer, direct amidships, about one foot above the water line. In an instant, volumes of steam and smoke is-ued out of her, fore and aft-her boiler was exploded Atter dropping two more shells into her hall, the order was given to cease firing on the steamer, and to direct the shots upon the different batteries, the barque and the brig, all of which were loading and firing as rapidly as possible. Quite a number of shell exploded in the batteries and considerable damage was done to the town

In passing out the Straits we delivered a few very effective shots into the brig, and the last seen of her she was fast settling by the stern. The fire from the batteries was kept up throughout, but somewhat slackened on our return.

By that time we had four ben killed outright and seven wounded (one since died) The armament of the Wyoming being only four 22 pounders and • two pivot guns, opposed to six shore batteries of an average of three guns each; the barque six, the brig eight, and the steamer two, making in all, thirty four guns, mostly 34 pounders, Capt. McDougal very wisely concluded to withdraw from so unequal a contest and proceeded to Yokohama for more force. The Caprain, alt his officers and crew behaved with the atmost coolness and bravery. The Wyoming was run into the midst of the enemy's vessels, receiving and returning broadsides at pistol range, at the same time sustaining a hot and continuous fire from shore batteries. When the successful shot struck the steamer our crew gave three hearty cheers. The action lasted one hour and ten minutes; we were bulled eleven times and received twenty or thirty shots in the masts, rigging and smoke stack. One 82 pound shell came through immediately below the tackles of the forward broadside gun, and exploding, killed one man and wounded five others.

> [From the Extra to the Japan Herald, July 24.] The Freuch Attack.

Admiral Jurez, in the Semiramis, has just returned arrived with the Tancrede on Monday morning in the Shimonoseki Straits. The Tancrede received fire from the batteries which, with the forts, were then bombarded for about three hours. One hundred and fifty troops landed. The forts, batteries, and town were destroyed; the guns were spiked. powder mag zine blowed up, and the village burned. Little fight was shown by the Japanese after being shelled out-principally from behind trees and jutting points of rocks. Two thousand men were reported to be descending towards the ships, but would not attempt to pass the range of the bombardment. Nothing was seen of the Lanrick, the Lancefield, or the barque; but the topmast of a sunken ship was thought to be seen. Casualities, three wounded A full account will be published in to morrow's issue.

Attack upon the Netherlands Ship Medusa, by Japanese Focts and Vessels of War in the Inland Sen.

H. N. M.'s trigate Medusa has just arrived from Nagasaki by the inland passage. On the 15th inst., she was attacked by the some forts and ves-els that attacked the Pembroke and Kien chan. The fire of the forts and ships was brought to hear upon the Medusa from all directions, and of the suots fired at her she received 24, which injured her very much. She has four men killed and s.x severely wounded. She destroyed one fort, and having done so she deemed it best to proceed to Kanagawa to report the matter It is intended, we believe, that the Medusa shall return, at once, to the Inland Sea. Part of the British fleet is about to depart for the scene of those attacks.

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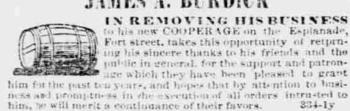
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